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Hawaii gets \$1.5 million bonus for food stamp program

Hawaii received \$1.5 million as an enhanced "bonus" award for accuracy with its food stamp program in 2002.



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Eric Bost, undersecretary for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food, Nutrition and Consumer Services, presented the check on Monday to Gov. Linda Lingle and Lillian Koller, director of Department of Human Services.

Hawaii earned the "bonus" award by lowering its error rate in administering of nutrition assistance from 6.53 percent in fiscal 2001 to 5.03 percent in fiscal 2002. Hawaii reached an accuracy rate of 94.97 percent, the ninth highest in the nation.

DHS underwent corrective action from 1999 to 2001 to increase accuracy rates. The department developed an action plan to improve case management skills and supervisory reviews.

Last fiscal, the food stamp program in Hawaii served an average of 100,000 people and administered \$12.5 million in benefits each month.

Since 1982, DHS has brought in over \$15.5 million in enhanced "bonus" awards.

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[Is deflation endangering bus](#)

While the economy in general appears to be a safe distance from deflation pit, the "d" word keeps creeping into company statements. While the economic recovery does not seem in soon, some fear a nightmare deflationary spiral that would be difficult to stop and devastating to businesses, families and the economy.

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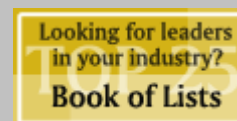
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